

THIS WEEK
CAMPUS

Tibetan Monks Visit NW

A group of 20 Tibetan Monks from the Depung Gomang Monastery in southwest India will be on campus Monday 20 through the 24. While on campus they will construct a sand-painted mandala throughout the week from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. in the Mel Carnahan Reading Room in the J.W. Jones Student Union.

The Monks will also perform a show on the Tibetan Culture at 6 p.m. April 23 in the Charles Johnson Theater in the Olive DeLuce Fine Arts Building.

A closing ceremony will take place at 4 p.m. April 24 where the sand from the Mandala will be dispersed to the audience.

The Monks are visiting Northwest as part of an effort to raise money to promote the survival of the Tibetan Culture.

COMMUNITY

The Guard Experience

The Missouri Army National Guard will hold "The Guard Experience" at 6:30 p.m. next Wednesday at the National Guard Armory.

The event allows for potential soldiers to learn about what the National Guard offers and to meet with and hear stories from soldiers currently enlisted. Pizza and promotional items will also be provided.

For more information, contact Sgt. 1st Class Ted Finney at 582-5200.

BEARCATS

Friday

Softball vs. Truman 3 p.m.
Men's tennis in Topeka, Kan. vs. St. Edwards
Women's tennis vs. Cameron in Tahlequah, Okla. 3 p.m.
Baseball @ Missouri Southern 6 p.m.
Track/field @ Central Missouri Mule Relays

Saturday

Women's tennis vs. Northeastern State in Tahlequah, Okla. 9 a.m.
Baseball @ Missouri Southern 1 p.m.
Softball vs. Missouri Western 1 p.m.
Women's tennis vs. Southeastern Okla. State in Tahlequah, Okla. 2 p.m.

Sunday

Baseball @ Missouri Southern 12 p.m.

Monday

Women's golf @ MIAA Championship @ Shoal Creek Golf Course in Kansas City, Mo.

Tuesday

Women's golf @ MIAA Championship @ Shoal Creek Golf Course in Kansas City, Mo.
Baseball @ Nebraska-Kearney 6 p.m.

Wednesday

Men's tennis vs Graceland 3 p.m.

SPOOFHOUNDS

Thursday

Baseball @ Savannah 4:30 p.m.

Monday

Baseball @ Pony Express Tournament
Boys' golf @ Maryville Tournament

Tuesday

Girls' Soccer @ Chillicothe 4:30 p.m.
Baseball @ Pony Express Tournament

Wednesday

Baseball @ Pony Express Tournament

PRESIDENTIAL SEARCH

Candidate hopes to strengthen economy in president position

By Whitney Keyes
Managing Editor

It's been a busy week for Northwest students, faculty, staff and administrators as the presidential candidate came to visit on Monday and Thursday. However, things aren't slowing down, Dr. Robert Clark, another candidate is in town for his on-campus visit today and tomorrow.

Clark is one of the four presidential candidates to replace President Dean Hubbard upon his retirement in August. The

other candidates yet to visit are Dr. Kent Porterfield of Saint Louis University and Dr. Joseph Shepard of Florida Gulf Coast University. Dr. John Jasinski of Northwood University had his visit on Monday and Tuesday.

Clark currently serves as the vice chancellor for the University of Kansas – Edwards Campus, a campus of 2,000 students.

The Edwards campus is mainly a commuter campus, where most students are non-traditional. The average age of an undergraduate student is 27;

graduate student is 31.

However, Clark is quick to point out the campus' growth – that it's not "just a commuter school."

Enrollment is working its way to 5,000 students and will soon offer 33 degree programs.

As Vice Chancellor, Clark oversees the entire Edwards campus and works in conjunction with the University of Kansas chancellor. When he joined the KU system, the Edwards campus was just three years old.

"They offered me this chance

to grow a campus," Clark said and offered the analogy of a painter having a blank canvas to work with.

The University of Kansas – Edwards campus Web site states that during his time serving there, the campus has tripled in size and passed a vote that provided a 1/8 cent sales tax to University of Kansas and Kansas State University.

Clark also played an important role in getting the campus' name changed from the Regents' Center to the University of Kansas – Edwards Campus, a move he felt

enhanced the image of the campus in the community's eyes.

"The word 'campus' means we'll be doing something here," Clark said.

As Clark said, he thinks the campus has been a vital asset to greater Kansas City.

He believes it is crucial for universities to offer programs that benefit the community, that build the economy.

Clark himself is an active community member and serves on the Overland Park

See **CLARK** on **A5**

SAFETY | CONCEALED WEAPONS

"I think Northwest prides itself on having a safe campus and that would be counterproductive to that safety."

-Jessica Brown, 21, junior



University reacts to possible gun law change

By Evan Young
Editor in Chief

A bill that would give some college students the means to defend themselves while on campus passed by a wide margin in the Missouri House of Representatives late last week. But officials from a number of public institutions, including Northwest, aren't endorsing it.

House Bill 645, sponsored by Rep. Brian Munzlinger (R-Williamstown), would allow anyone with a concealed carry weapon license to bring guns onto public college and

university campuses. The measure would also lower the minimum age for obtaining a CCW license from 23 to 21.

The bill passed through the House with a 106-41 vote but still faces Senate scrutiny.

Concealed carry has been legal in Missouri since 2003, but license holders are banned from bringing their weapons onto certain properties, such as public elementary, middle and high schools; college campuses and public hospitals.

Supporters say lifting this ban would greatly benefit campus safety. Students and educators that have participated in

CCW training (in Missouri, a one day, eight-hour mix of class and firing range practice) and are licensed could become an important first line of defense in certain violent situations – especially if time is of the essence and law enforcement doesn't respond fast enough.

That, proponents claim, might help prevent large-scale campus attacks, such as the 2007 Virginia Tech shooting.

"Schools and other gun-free zones are where people like to target," Munzlinger told the Associated Press last week.

However, opponents,

including Northwest officials, maintain there is no evidence that links arming students with increased campus security. Rather, Campus Safety Director Clarence Green said, the move would create a "tactical nightmare" for police officers during an emergency and an atmosphere of distrust the rest of the time.

Green is the president of the Missouri Association of Campus Law Enforcement Administrators, which he said was quick to voice its opposition to H.B. 645.

See **GUNS** on **A5**

COMMUNITY NEWS

City approves water, sewer rate increases

By Greg Miller
Missourian Reporter

Water and sewer bills in the city of Maryville are about to rise.

The Maryville City Council approved a 10 percent rise in water rates and 15 percent rise in sewer rates. The council also approved a \$65 hike in the city's water and sewer ordinance, and a ten percent increase in water and sewer rates.

The increases are necessary for the system, Maryville City Manager Matt LeCerc said.

"The increase goes towards necessary capital improvements on water and wastewater facilities," said LeCerc.

LeCerc added that the improvements and upgrades to both facilities are mandated by the state of Missouri.

The hike to the water and sewer deposit will add revenue to public works, but only affects

residents initializing water service.

LeCerc adds the fee increase is part of a long term plan for upgrades to the city's water and sewer facilities.

"If you're not building a new home or adding a service, you won't see a difference," said Greg Decker, Maryville Public Works Director, regarding the increase in the water deposit.

Decker adds the new fees

will be based on size of connections and impact to the system.

The increase in fees will help infrastructure and improvements of the city's sewer facilities, said Decker. The user fees will also help offset the cost of sewage system's sanitation line, and helps maintain the system.

The fee increase is also designed to keep the water plant operating.

PRESIDENT

Northwest graduate tries for open role

By Whitney Keyes
Managing Editor

A former Bearcat will come back to campus on Monday and Tuesday – Dr. Kent Porterfield, one of the four finalists for the president position.

The other finalists to replace Dr. Dean Hubbard after his retirement in August are Dr. John Jasinski of Northwood University, Dr. Robert Clark of University of Kansas – Edwards Campus and Dr. Joseph Shepard of Florida Gulf Coast University.

Jasinski was the first to visit and was on campus Monday and Tuesday. Clark will be on campus today and tomorrow.

Porterfield currently serves as the vice president for student development at Saint Louis University, where he has served since 2006.

Saint Louis University is a private institution of about 12,000 students and is right in the heart of Saint Louis, as Porterfield described it.

He said SLU had a mission for public service and offered a well-rounded approach to education.

In his position, he works with outside of class issues, such as student life, campus dining, housing, recreation programs, tutoring and more.

Overall, Porterfield said he works with about a \$17 million budget and oversees 45 building, both outdoor and indoor.

"One strength I offer is my experiences have put me in different areas," Porterfield said. "I have a variety of understanding and expertise. I work beyond my area of assignment."

Porterfield started his higher education experience at Northwest, first as an undergraduate and then a graduate student. During his time as a graduate student, he started a job managing the J.W. Jones Student Union, escalating his start in higher education administration.

"That was an interesting time. I was fortunate to be a little naïve and it was a tremendous learning opportunity," he said. "One of the real challenges was almost to reinvent myself; I went from being a peer to be responsible, to mentoring and coaching."

Porterfield said the experience provided useful insight and convinced him to pursue a career in higher education.

In addition to his degrees from Northwest, a bachelor of science in education and a Master's in educational administration, Porterfield also holds an Ed.D, a doctorate of education, in educational leadership and policy analysis from University of Missouri.

The other three candidates all have doctorates, but Porterfield

See **PORTERFIELD** on **A5**

EASTER EGG HUNT



COLLIN SOWARDS SEARCHES for Easter eggs at Donaldson Westside Park Saturday. The event was sponsored by Maryville Host Lions and Maryville Hy-Vee.

Summer Session

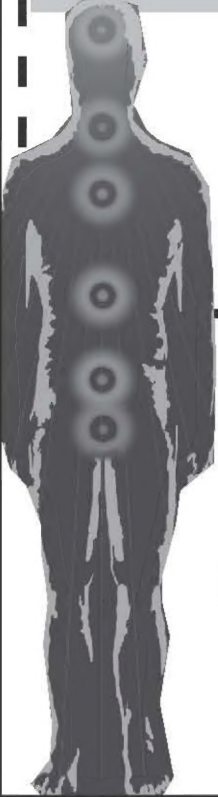
For the first time EVER the Northwest Writing Center is offering summer tutoring sessions.

To make an appointment or for more information call 562.1480
E-mail: WC@nwmissouri.edu OR visit 1800 Colden Hall

New Location

Starting July, summer block, the Writing Center will move to the 2nd floor of the Owens Library. Tutors will continue to aid all those who seek assistance!

Everyone Welcome



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CITY COUNCIL

City exploring paths to take with road projects

By Kenny Larabee
Community News Editor

Maryville residents can count on seeing more changes to the roads beneath their wheels this year.

Two short strips of road — Jenkins Street and Thompson Street — between Main Street and Buchanan Street, should be completed within 30 working days. And the city also plans to start projects on 16th Street (from College Drive to Country Club Road) and South Depot (from First Street to South Avenue) within the year, Maryville City Manager Matt LeCerc said.

Funding for those projects could come from the \$4.8 million allotted to city street projects in last year's City Improvement Plan (CIP) tax.

The final design for the removal and replacement of 16th Street should come by the end of the week.

Surveys on South Depot are complete and the city is working with engineers to possibly change the road's layout.

That includes changes to the intersection of Depot and Halsey as well as altering the curves south of the New Nodaway County Humane Society, LeCerc said.

"We're going to try and get some conceptual designs as to how is the best way to lay that out," LeCerc said. "It just seems smarter for us to actually take South Depot, try to smooth that turn at Halsey, bend it back into South Depot, then when you get down to the Humane Society, also make that a smoother curve as well."

Rough estimates for the projects are \$1 million for 16th Street and \$2 million for South Depot.

Combined with the \$1.7 million spent on last year's Main Street project, roughly \$100,000 of the allotted \$4.8

million tabbed for city repairs would be left.

City officials tried to position themselves for stimulus funds earlier this year in hopes of gaining added money for road projects. It's uncertain at this time what amount the city will get, if any. The city is still trying though, working with the Northwest Regional Council of Governments and their local representatives, Maryville Mayor Chad Jackson said.

"We've submitted the proposals to (Claire) McCaskill's office, (Kit) Bond's office, (Sam) Graves' (office), just to let them know what opportunities that we have here to utilize some funds," Jackson said.

There are other streets, such as South Munn and Seventh Street that need addressed as well, Jackson said. Balancing funds against needs is an issue the city will have to continue to deliberate, he said.

One example is the corner

of Seventh and Main streets. A naturally occurring spring in the parking lot of the Finish Line convenience store has created a water flow that runs into North Main, creating potholes and forcing the city to patch the road periodically.

The city uses a coal-patch material to fill potholes, which costs the city about \$90 a ton, Maryville Public Works Director Greg Decker said. The patches only serve as a temporary solution however.

With other projects and only so much money to go around, the city can only address so many roads at a time, LeCerc said.

"We want to get to everybody and we want to service everybody as best as possible, but there's obviously only so much funding," LeCerc said. "It's on a case-by-case basis. We understand that everybody has needs and we're trying to get to those as soon as possible."

EMPLOYMENT

Economy slightly affecting students' ability to get jobs this summer

By Kiley Swopes
Chief Reporter

Many layoffs in companies are occurring due to the economy and are slightly affecting temporary employment.

On average, Northwest Service Inc., a temporary staffing agency for local factories in the area, has about 50 students who apply for temporary placement in a job, General Manager Josh Pearson said.

"The economy has

affected everyone," Pearson said. "There are not a lot of students on staff, but we are trying to stay positive and hope more students will start applying."

Most students work split shifts, like part time or summer only, Pearson said. Employers find it easier to fill a full eight-hour shift rather than part time, causing fewer student jobs.

The Missouri Career Center still has summer jobs available, employment and training director Maggie

Reever said. Jobs in retail and food service are not as high as they usually are, but healthcare is in demand.

Most part time or summer jobs only pay minimum wage, Reever said. People laid off usually cannot afford to live off minimum wage, allowing students to have the jobs.

There are summer jobs available today if a student remains persistent, coordinator of student employment Paula McLain said.

"The key steps to getting a

job are to have a good resume, write legible and present yourself well on paper and in person," McLain said.

Students should take advantage of Career Services on-campus to learn skills needed to get a job, McLain said. Missouri Career Center and Northwest Service Inc. will also help by informing those interested when new summer jobs are listed.

"Now is the time to really learn the job application and interview process," McLain said.

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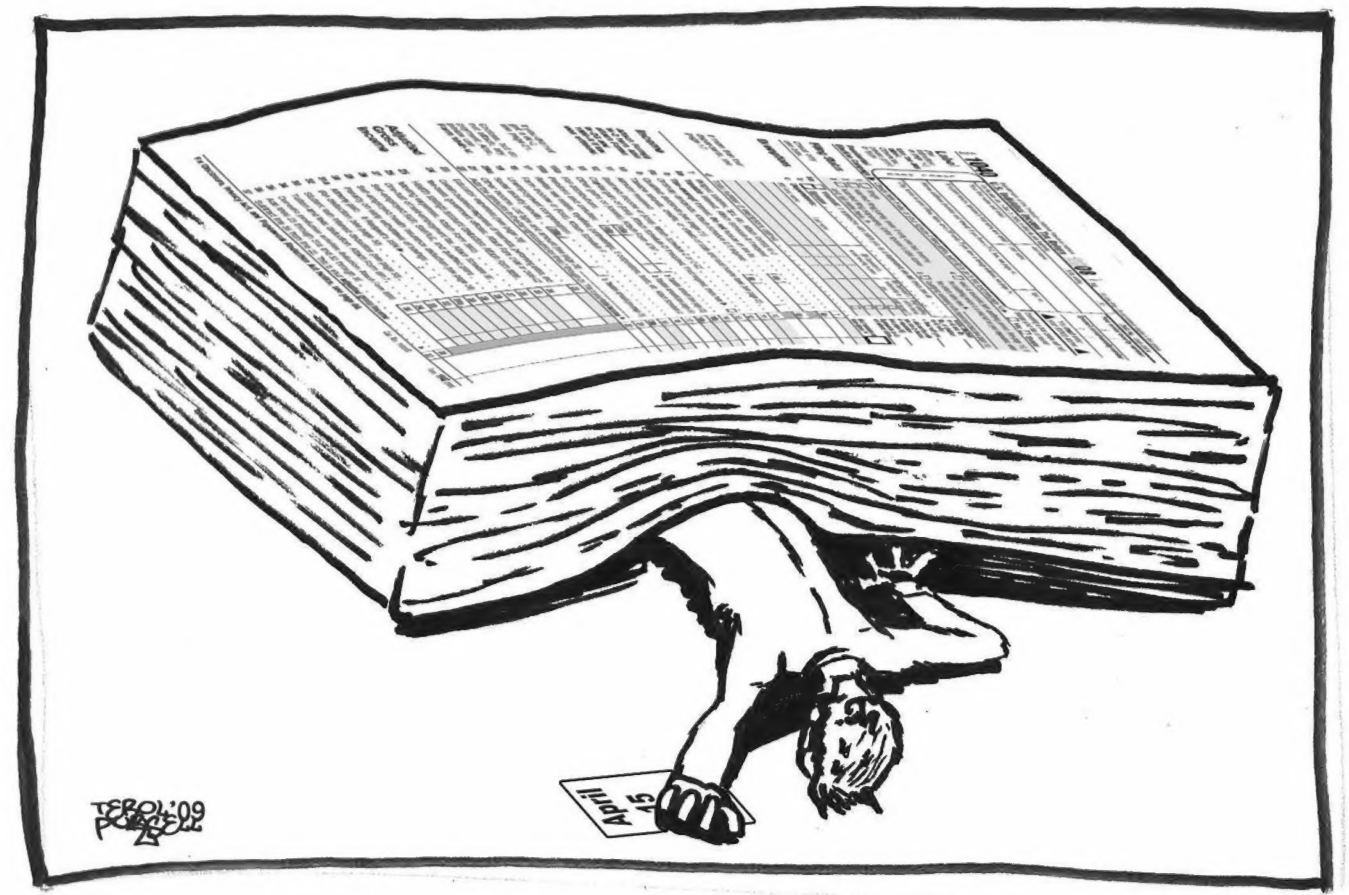
OUR VIEW

Backward legislation threatens campus safety

The Missouri House recently approved an amendment to the 2003 conceal and carry law, which would lower the minimum age to apply for a permit to 21, and allow Missouri residents who have conceal and carry permits to do so on college campuses. Although there needs to be a change in policy to prevent another incident like Virginia Tech, University officials, students, Missouri residents and legislators must question if this is the correct move to make. Would this amendment actually decrease the level of violence on college campuses, or would it instead provide an increase of means to gun violence and accidents related to firearms? The idea that a trained student would have the capability to take out a shooter before he or she injures or inflicts casualties, although sounding pretty good, is actually fairly flawed. Yes, it would be great if

some hero-scenario such as this could occur, but if so, it would purely be by luck or chance. This amendment offers no statistical evidence whatsoever to support the claim that there would be a decrease in gun violence. It could even be argued that instead of decreasing the chances of another Virginia Tech incident from occurring, the amendment would increase other gun-violence incidents or accidents. Let's question the capability of the students in Missouri to responsibly carry firearms. We all know that 21 is the age to legally drink. A 21-year-old can fight and die for his or her country, and can vote in elections on issues and candidates. However, a 21-year-old college student also still has much room to grow, not only in responsibility, but rationality as well. If this amendment is approved by Missouri, the negative consequences would

outweigh the one and only hero-scenario given by the bill's sponsor, Rep. Brian Munzlinger, which includes student fatality and a drastic change in the culture of Northwest, the culture of safety we currently experience. This is your chance as citizens to make your voices known. Contact state senators and representatives, and make your stance, regardless if you are a resident of Missouri.



MY VIEW

Bill may prove to be DREAM come true for illegal immigrants

In this country, roughly 65,000 high school graduates find themselves in a bind. The obstacles they must overcome to live the "American dream" has proven to be too difficult to hurdle. Brought to this country as kids, these members of society have grown up in our education system and shared our culture and values. Unfortunately, due to their immigration status, they are barred from certain opportunities that make a college education viable. Last month, Senator Richard Durbin and a couple of his peers introduced the "Development, Relief and Education for Alien Minors" Act (also known as the DREAM Act) into Congress. This legislation would make possible access to higher education for immigrant students by restoring states' rights to offer in-state tuition to these individuals residing in their state. It would also provide a path toward citizenship for these hardworking youth to pursue either higher education or military service, enabling them fully to contribute to

our society. By fulfilling their potential and officially becoming members to the "land of opportunity" they will help make up part of the educated workforce needed for the U.S. to compete in the global economy. The DREAM Act will allow undocumented immigrants who have entered this country as children (under the age of 15), who have lived in this country continuously for five years and graduated from high school, and who have been law-abiding and of "good moral character," to apply to the Department of Homeland Security for conditional legal status. If these individuals attend college or participate in military service for a minimum of two years, then they would be eligible for permanent legal residency and ultimately citizenship. If individuals do not comply with these standards, then temporary residency will be taken away and they would

be subject to deportation. Currently, the way the law stands, those children who immigrate to the U.S. can only obtain permanent status through their parents. Some individuals remain without status even though they may have parents or spouses who are legal permanent residents. Because of this, there isn't a method for these children to become legal. Even returning to their country of origin would not guarantee a path to legal status, and roadblocks, such as 10 year bans on re-entering the States, make it virtually impossible. According to the latest version of the bill, which has been introduced numerous times to Congress, beneficiaries of the legislation must have proof of arrival to the U.S. before the age of 16, residency in the U.S. for five consecutive years since their date of arrival, must be under the age of 35, having graduated from an American high

school (or GED) and be of "good moral character." Some opponents in Congress have labeled the Act as amnesty that would encourage further illegal immigration. While others insist that the act should only be enacted as part of a comprehensive immigration reform. Although I sympathize with those "aliens," allowing – and perhaps even promoting – illegal immigration is rather absurd! We've spent the last who knows how many years warding off unlawful intrusions into this country. My concern is what will be in place to deter further immigration. I'm all for individuals contributing effectively to society, many Americans already need to learn how to do so ... but, perhaps those citizens from other countries should concern themselves with being able to better their home country and we should be more concerned with allowing our own children to take advantage of the opportunities we already provide.

MY VIEW

Moral laws favor views of majority

Safety; Life, Liberty and the pursuit of Happiness – these are two major themes within the Declaration of Independence. Granted, all liberty experienced in government is limited, but limited for safety, for the general welfare. The state's interest within government should outweigh the individual interest. However, when that state interest is to limit happiness or liberty without the basis of safety or order, should this limitation take place? That is the question that must be asked today as we see an overwhelming incentive for the limitation of liberty by the state with no purpose of the safety or welfare of the whole. True, our nation was built upon religion, specifically Christianity, a foundational aspect that should be respected. But our government was built upon other foundational aspects, and these should not be disrespected; first and foremost, our nation was built upon the idea of liberty, to do what one wills, to think what one thinks so long as those thoughts or actions do not impede upon the liberty or safety of another. But when are those limits of liberty necessary? Obviously, if one's actions are going to take away the life or liberty of another. But what if one's actions, one's thoughts, one's beliefs do not take away from the life or liberty of anybody? And in turn, what if the thoughts and beliefs which lead to legislative action from the majority do take away the liberty of another? Is that then correct because it is of the majority consensus, the prevailing opinion?

The moral legislation in today's government is tyranny of the majority. It is the limitation of liberty without the primary purposes of safety or order. And why is this considered correct, because of the foundation of Christianity? To hold one foundation so high above other foundations is to completely twist the collected principles of the formation of our government. If this one foundation was to be held in such esteem, surely the Founding Fathers would have originally formed a government based upon those tenets of Christianity so widely believed in, and in turn formed a theocratic system of government. But no, the Founding Fathers did not, and the very first amendment to our constitution is for the safety of religion from the state and the safety of the state from religion. The U.S. Constitution was formed and enacted to prevent the government from becoming an independent creature and overstepping its boundaries, to protect the liberty of the individual, when in any government, the state and individual interests, the general and particular interests have always been at war with one other. This moral legislation will either be changed to fit the primary purposes of government or our government will eventually collapse. Which would you prefer?



Kathleen Wilmes
Opinion Editor



Natalie Bell
Contributing Columnist

CAMPUS TALK

What needs reformed most in the U.S. today?



"Obviously, the economy."

Erika Muzney
Fashion Merchandising



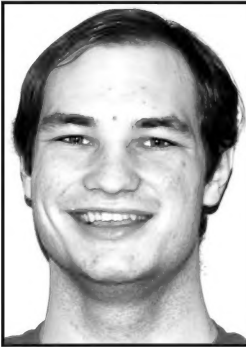
"More energy self-sufficiency."

Chris Nelson
Geology



"The health issue...less expensive more affordable for people and also education more affordable."

Manal Bennaciri
Advertising



"The social security and social care programs we have lacked in supporting these programs."

Matthew Umstead
Biology Psychology



"Health care."

Lauren Driskell
Accounting

CLARK: Kansas candidate has strong community presence

Continued from A1

Chamber of Commerce, Johnson County Business Leader's Council and Midwest Research Institute among others.

"It's important for someone in that position [president of a university] to be a good community citizen," Clark said. "They need to be the face and voice of the university."

Clark feels his leadership styles he's learned from his experience in higher education has influenced his time on the community boards on which he serves.

"It's not a ceremonious role. I'm there to take part in creation of policies that have impact," Clark said.

His education, which played a crucial part in his leadership style, includes a bachelor's degree in sociology from Arizona State University, a Master's in higher education from Colorado State University and a Ph.D. in educational administration with an emphasis in strategic planning from Syracuse University.

"It deals with strategy, positioning the University to be in a healthier, mission-driven place," Clark said. "It deals with mustering into the will of faculty, community, staff and students. Making sure everyone is keeping their eyes forward and not looking back."

He is also a 1993 graduate of Harvard University Institute for Educational Management, a month-long program for seven-days a week. Only 100 participants are accepted worldwide, one-third of which are international.

Clark described the program as "the most intensive education" he's experienced.

"You're expected to go back to your institution and be a change agent," Clark said.

In addition to serving as an administrator, Clark also teaches a leadership class at

the University of Kansas - Edwards Campus.

His class has been offered to several programs, including the MBA program and also at the graduate level.

Clark said his teaching experiences help him understand what faculty goes through in the classroom with students and also what students need.

Of all his tasks, he believes teaching is the most fun.

He also feels that past jobs in administration have helped him to understand students' needs. At his first administration position, at Syracuse University, Clark served as a counselor. From there, he coordinated the first financial aid program and then became director of the financial aid program. After that, he ran the engineering and management department at Syracuse until offered the chance to direct the management program at Rockhurst University in Kansas City.

After Rockhurst, he moved to his current position at the Edwards campus.

As for his potential move to Northwest, Clark understands there are some challenges that will face the new president: including legal issues involving the Board of Regents and Student Senate, as well as two administrators leaving, Provost Kichoon Yang and Vice President for University Relations Mary Ann Lowary.

"I really see it as more of an opportunity," Clark said of the open positions. "It's really a significant opportunity."

Clark will be on campus for his visit today and tomorrow. The student forum will start at 3 p.m. in the J.W. Jones Student Union Boardroom. The faculty, staff and community forum will begin at 4 p.m., also in the Boardroom.

After Clark, the next candidate to visit will be Dr. Kent Porterfield of Saint Louis University.

PORTERFIELD: Relationships crucial to lead, says candidate

Continued from A1

does not feel that will be an issue to consider.

"I don't think that's significant. You can look across the spectrum of higher education and see both," Porterfield said in regards to his Ed.D. He added that the preparatory work for both degrees is similar and that he also wrote a dissertation, like Ph.D. candidates.

He's not concerned with how his degree compares to others, as he feels there are more important qualities a candidate needs to fill.

"The next president needs to be someone who can bring people together," he said. "Someone who can lead in a way that enables people to have a true stake. People have to be on the

same page and work together."

Porterfield said Northwest, in his experience, was a campus where people were willing to work and work hard.

As an alumnus of the school and also having formerly worked at Northwest, Porterfield said an advantage he had was that he had some Northwest experience.

"I have the knowledge of the people, the history, the structure, the state, the alumni. I've spent 40 years in northwest Missouri. I think the advantage I have is that I lived it. I also helped create it and develop it."

In his career at Northwest, which ended in 2006, Porterfield helped to create the student volunteerism office, the Safe Ride program and the housing master plan. He also helped oversee a

renovation of the Union and the Wellness Center.

Still there, he says there are huge opportunities at Northwest and that he could offer a more seamless transition.

However, SLU is a private institution and Northwest is not, creating some differences in how the two operate.

Private institutions, he said, are dependent on tuition fees and fundraising, where public universities receive federal and state money.

"The fortunate thing is that I was public education for quite some time - I know how that process works," Porterfield said. "There's still similarities in what they try to accomplish, it's how you deal with campus issues."

He knows there are plenty of campus issues to handle right

now, among which are open positions for the provost and vice president for university relations and legal issues with the Board of Regents.

"The new president needs to get his feet on the ground quickly," Porterfield said. "It's really important. You can't accomplish anything without building and sustaining relationships."

Porterfield will be on campus for his visit Monday and Tuesday. The student forum will start at 3 p.m. on Tuesday in the J.W. Jones Student Union Boardroom. The faculty, staff and community forum will begin at 4, also on Tuesday in the Boardroom.

After Porterfield, the next candidate to visit will be Dr. Joseph Shepard of Florida Gulf Coast University.

GUNS: Culture may experience changes

Continued from A1

"It will change the culture," Green said. "How do you approach individuals that do have a weapon? How do you distinguish between shooters (in a crisis scenario)? It just isn't appropriate."

Furthermore, Missouri lawmakers so far haven't addressed how allowing concealed weapons on campuses would affect students who are distressed or suicidal, said Jackie Elliot, vice president of student affairs. Students under severe stress don't always think rationally, and while they may not own a gun, a friend or on-campus roommate who is licensed might, she said.

"If (those students) get their hands on a weapon, our ability to

intervene and provide resources or counseling has pretty much diminished at that point," Elliot said.

Should the measure make it through Jefferson City, Elliot said the best thing Northwest could do is educate its students about concealed weapons and further promote its resources for distressed students. In the meantime, she encouraged students to let legislators know their thoughts on the issue.

"They (lawmakers) need to think about the messages they're sending out to students about their college campuses and how they should feel on their college campuses," Elliot said.

(Lisa Houtchens and Kenny Larabee contributed to this story.)

OBITUARIES

Courtney Gene Hilsabeck, 84 of Barnard, Mo., died Wednesday, April 15, 2009 at St Francis Hospital, Maryville, Mo.

He was born September 6, 1924 in Barnard, Mo., the son of Ivan and Jessie (Wohlford) Hilsabeck. A graduate of Barnard High School, Courtney joined the U.S. Army in 1943.

He married Betty Lee Quinn on March 20, 1949 in Maryville, Mo. They were divorced and he married Yvonne Heckman September 17, 1992 in Hialeah, Kan. They also divorced.

Hilsabeck worked for Montgomery Wards in Maryville, Mo., beginning in 1946.

He was the Assistant Manager when the store closed in 1981. He then worked at Eveready Battery until his retirement.

He attended the Barnard Methodist Church.

Hilsabeck was preceded in death by his parents; a brother: Ivelle Hilsabeck, sister-in-law: Rita Hilsabeck and nephew: Roger Hilsabeck.

Survivors include his daughters: Janie (Donnie) Burch of Maryville, Mo.; Brenda (Kurt) Culp of Maitland, Mo. and Beth Strueby of Conception Junction, Mo.; his former wife: Betty Rinehart; sister: Deloris (Billy) Shelton of Maryville, Mo.; and brothers: Alan (Sue) Hilsabeck of Maryville, Mo.; Edwin Hilsabeck of Barnard, Mo. and

Gary (Marilyn) Hilsabeck of Barnard, Mo.; a sister-in-law: Marilyn Hilsabeck of Barnard, Mo.; 10 grandchildren; 6 great-grandchildren; many nieces and nephews and some very special friends at Village Care Center.

Memorials may be made to the Barnard United Methodist Church in Courtney's name.

Sr. Mary Mildred Sobba, OSB of Clyde, Mo., died Sunday, April 12, 2009, at Our Lady of Rickenbach Health Care, Clyde, Mo.

Frieda Adeline Sobba was born August 11, 1916 in Pratt, Kan., the daughter of Christopher and Ruth (Ralston) Sobba. She was a graduate of Fowler High School in Kansas.

Sr. Mary Mildred entered the Benedictine Convent January 21, 1961, made her first vows September 12, 1963 and her final profession on September 12, 1968. She served as her congregation's subprioress and bookkeeper many years. She was also a member of the Daughters of Isabella.

Sister was preceded in death by her parents and brother, John Sobba.

Survivors include her Monastic Family, brothers and sisters-in-law: Robert and Lula Bella Sobba; Irvin and Mary Helen Sobba; Walter and Joan Sobba and Raymond and Judy Sobba; and many nieces and nephews.

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BRANCH OUT

University celebrates Arbor Day on Friday, continues restoring trees 2 years after storm

By Kiley Swopes
 Chief Reporter

Northwest contributes trees to the arboretum not only to celebrate Arbor Day, but also in effort to replace trees lost in last December's ice storm.

Arbor Day was founded in Nebraska City, Neb., by J. Sterling Morton to encourage education and planting of trees and shrubs across the United States.

National Arbor Day is the last Friday of April, however, each state chooses when it would like to celebrate based on best tree planting times, associate director for the Office of Environmental Services Lezlee Johnson said. Missouri's Arbor Day is the first Friday of April.

"The weather is rarely well the first of April," Johnson said. "We took a guess last year that the 17th of April would be good for Northwest's Arbor Day this year."

After the December 2007 ice storm, President Dr. Dean Hubbard encouraged a big celebration to plant new trees in place of the ones the campus lost, Johnson said.

"We have never participated in Arbor Day as a campus until last year," Johnson said. "We decided to make a tradition and continue to celebrate Arbor Day at Northwest out of respect for Dr. Hubbard."

Many students got involved with planting trees after last year's ice storm.

"I have always thought Northwest campus was so pretty, but after the ice storm, the campus seemed really

bare," sophomore Jaime Webb said. "I helped plant a tree because I wanted to be a part of something that will be at Northwest for a long time."

The Northwest campus is Missouri's official Arboretum.

Arboretums are used to educate, used for science and for display, arborist Adam Stone said. It is a collection of different species of trees and shrubs.

The arboretum not only attracts students to the campus, but it also gives the University state and national recognition, Stone said. Students and community members are educated about trees and become environmentally aware as well.

Northwest receives trees from a variety of different sources, Johnson said. The trees have come from nurseries in Iowa, St. Louis and St. Joseph, Mo.

This year nine trees will be planted to the north of the Performing Arts Center. The money to purchase the trees came from people who donated after the ice storm, Johnson said.

Planting more trees will eventually restore the campus, sophomore Nicole Skutnick said.

"Northwest built the campus around the trees as much as possible," Skutnick said. "The ice storm took away many of the trees that made the campus so beautiful, but we can move forward by planting new trees help get back what we lost."

For more information about Arbor Day or to buy trees to help celebrate tree planting and care go to Arboday.org

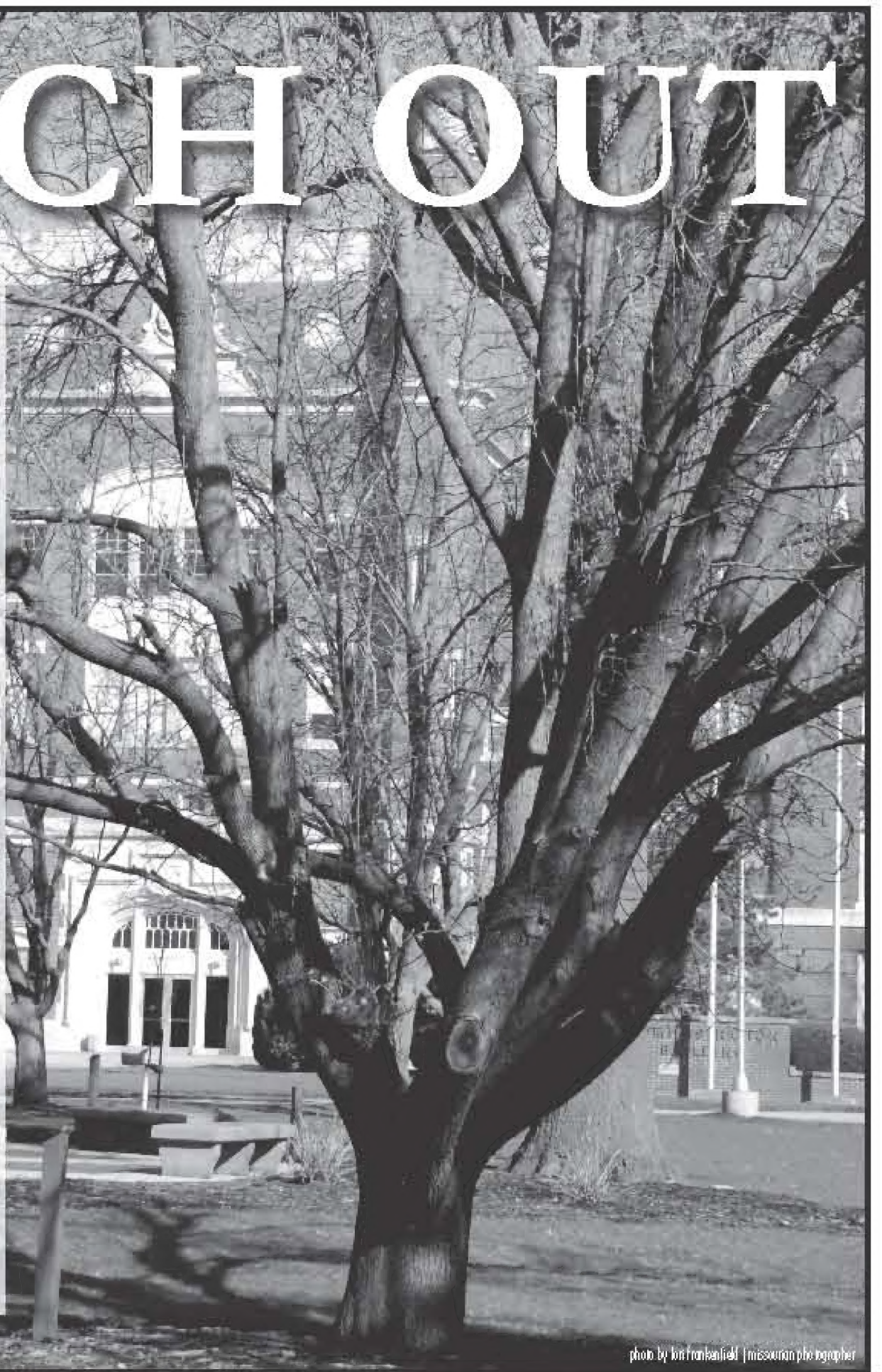


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Solid Ground[s]

By Sydney Moore
Features Editor

As they hustle between classes, work and home, many Northwest students find themselves in the Union at least once a day.

As students catch up with friends, stand in the never-ending lines for lunch or waste time watching TV, hundreds of students pass through the Union's doors each day.

Away from the typical noisy atmosphere, tucked away in their own dimly lit corner of the Union, three friends discuss their weekends and families, and turn to each other for advice over coffee in Java City.

The friends, however, aren't enjoying the beverages themselves – they're preparing them.

The baristas, Carie Miles, Angela Farrell and Saun Willtrout, spend their days whipping up favorites such as caramel macchiatos and white mochas for many students and faculty members.

Not only do the baristas memorize the numerous drink combinations they use everyday, they have also memorized many of their customers orders.

"It's easier because I can just hand her the cup and she makes the drinks," Miles said referring to Willtrout. "It actually goes a lot faster if we can memorize what everyone has."

Memorization doesn't come easily. The baristas have learned the orders because of the frequent visits made by faithful Java City customers. Not only do they memorize the drinks, they form a special relationship with many

students and faculty members that visit often. The regular customers are what all three employees agree make the job worthwhile. "You really like who you talk to," Willtrout said. "You don't just do it because you have to."

Spending their days behind the bar has also allowed the baristas to learn more about their customers lives. Whether a student has mentioned a recent trip, hinted toward stress or is clearly having a bad day, Miles, Farrell and Willtrout agree it's easy to notice and remember these things.

"We really do care and we enjoy hearing about students' lives," Farrell said.

Miles added that building relationships has helped show the respect the baristas have earned from their customers.

"We see kids out at restaurants and stuff, and that's neat because they knew who you are," Miles said. "And it's neat that young kids like that respect us back there being regular workers."

Spending day after day together in the coffee shop has made the baristas more than just co-workers. The three have become close friends, spending a great amount of time together outside of the shop. Although the three agree the schedule of the job is great while raising a family, they also

agree that the time spent apart in the summer is hard.

"When we're off in the summer and winter we get to missin' each other," Miles said.

While some jobs are the kind people dread, the baristas agreed they enjoy their job, and give most of the credit to their co-workers.

"I love them, if it weren't for them I don't know if I would still be here or not," Farrell said. "I never ever dread my job, but if they were both to call in sick, I might dread my job."

Working together through the week sometimes isn't enough for the close friends.

"Everyday I wonder what the girls are doing, and just think 'oh my gosh, I have to tell them everything that happened this weekend,'" Miles said.

"It's like a hen house in here," Willtrout said. "We gotta gripe about our other halves, kids, get advice and hope they grow out of it."



photos by rachel ritman | missourian photographer

JAVA CITY BARISTAS Angela Farrell, Saun Willtrout and Carie Miles laugh and joke with one another as they prepare and serve beverages Wednesday morning. The three employees have become best friends after working together at the coffee shop.

Top 4 picks

By Marshall Carlson
Entertainment Reporter

New album to stores – Death Cab for Cutie’s latest EP hit shelves Tuesday. The new release titled “The Open Door EP” contains five tracks the band thought didn’t quite fit the mood of their previous release, “Narrow Stairs.” It’s because of this that listeners that weren’t as attracted to “Narrow Stairs.” Avid Death Cab fans may find “The Open Door” very appealing.

New to theaters – Coming to theaters Friday is “State of Play.” Russell Crowe (“Cinderella Man”) stars as a witty newspaper journalist, Cal McAffrey, who uncovers a conspiracy of presidential proportions. Congressmen Stephen Collins (Ben Affleck, “Pearl Harbor”) is hoping to get his party nomination for the presidency when his research assistant is murdered. Unlucky for Collins, McAffrey is the journalist covering the story of the murder. As he digs deeper and deeper and teams up with Della Frye (Rachel McAdams, “The Notebook”), the duo uncovers secrets about the murder.

New to DVD – From the same director as “300” and “Sin City” comes “The Spirit.” Based on Will Eisner’s graphic novel of the same name, the movie takes place in Central City, which is being terrorized by the uncompromising Octopus. The only man that can stop him is Denny Colt, one of the city’s cops. There’s something special about Colt, though. He’s been murdered and born again. The movie follows Colt as he tracks down the evil Octopus through the different parts of the city and his struggle to uphold justice.

New band to check out – Pierce the Veil is just starting to break through the music scene. The quartet is part of the post-hardcore genre and appeals to the heavier side of the musical spectrum. The San Diego-based group consists of Vic Fuentes (lead vocals, guitar), Mike Fuentes (drums, percussion), Jaime Preciado (bass, vocals) and Tony Perry (guitar). They have toured with bands such as the Devil Wears Prada, Emery, Emarosa, and For Tomorrow and also performed on the Vans Warped Tour in 2007. With their attractive guitar hooks and convincing vocals, Pierce the Veil is a force to be reckoned with.

STROLLER

Your Man says pirates are a treasure

Pirates are once again making headlines and getting the respect they deserve.

Pirates are probably the coolest figures of the past. Now their modern-day fellow swashbucklers use GPS, but who cares? They don’t waste time learning to chart maps, which sounds boring anyways. It’s way better to cruise around in speed boats with AK-47s.

Personally, I think it’s cool that pirates still roam the ocean, plundering those that dare enter their waters. And they have hideouts on land scattered all along the coast. There are mother ships waiting, ready to attack.

They can’t be blamed for doing it; they are stealing to eat. Somalia is one of the poorest nations in the world. They give back to the country, their families and people. Now Obama wants to take them out.

It’s bad enough that the United States made a mess of Somalia in the 1990s. Watch the movie “Black Hawk Down” to see about that fiasco. But it doesn’t show the tens of thousands of women and children that were killed.

That would happen again if we try to attack their strongholds.



The Stroller

And no other country wants to be a part of a land assault on the pirates because of the mess it would create with civilians in the area.

Think about it. Let them be. The hostages that have been released all said they were treated very well; one even said he ate “sumptuous” food. All the pirates want is money, simple enough.

Now we have killed three of their men, and it was a bad idea. If I know anything about pirates, I know they are all about honor.

They were giving safe harbor to hostages, but we have crossed the line.

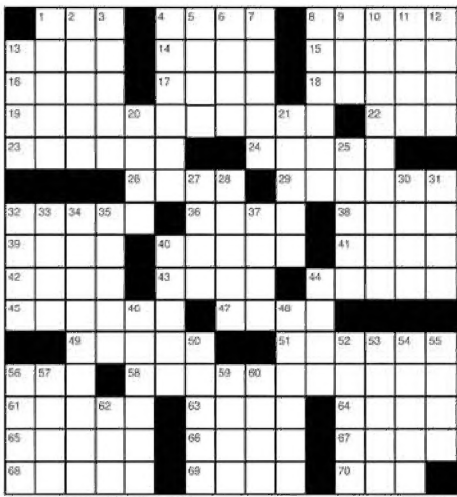
Another thing I know about pirates is that they keep their word, and if that word is revenge, they don’t rest until they get it. They are not the best group to make an example of.

So I say beware to those who travel the sea, pirates again are on the loose, with vengeance on their minds.

The Stroller has been a tradition since 1918 and does not reflect the views of The Northwest Missourian.

Crossword

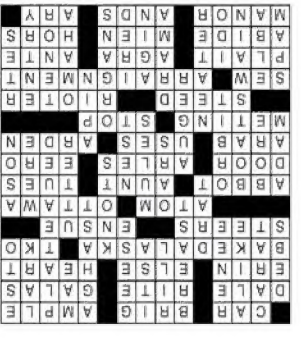
- ACROSS
1 Sonata or Prelude
4 Cell affloat
8 Sufficient
13 Valley
14 Ceremony
15 Bashes
16 Role on “The Waltons”
17 Anything ____ something more
18 Muscular organ
19 Special dessert
22 Ref.’s decision
23 Guides
24 Follow
26 Tiny unit
29 Capital city
32 Man of the cloth
36 Family tree member
38 Part of every wk.
39 Passage
40 City on the Rhine
41 Architect
42 Riyadh resident
43 Employ
44 Star of “Our Miss Brooks”
45 Doling
47 Octagon word
49 Mount
51 One involved in a public disturbance
56 Do a tailor’s job
58 Court procedure
61 Interview
63 City in India
64 Bel
65 Continue
66 Manner
67 d’oeuvres
68 Fine residence
69 Conjunctions
70 Suffix for station or vision



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4/16/09

Solutions



- 5 Brook
6 “girl”
7 Waterfowl
8 Shocked
9 West
10 Levelled off
11 Songbird
12 This: Sp.
13 Ball attendees, for short
20 “Rats!”
21 Entanglements
25 Say
27 Boatman’s items
28 Stubborn ones
30 Common verb
31 “You shall conceive and bear ____” (Luke 1:31)
32 1st of many
33 Tiresome companion
34 Petty officer
35 Planet’s path
37 Cozy home
40 Carpenter’s tool
44 Neat as ____
46 More orderly
48 Church features
50 Ibsen’s specialty
52 Nebraska
53 Choir member
54 Access
55 Hwys.
56 Unwanted mail
57 Italian island
59 Not “fer”
60 Riled
62 Solemn vow

Hannah Montana film isn’t best of both worlds; plot too predictable

By Brian Johnson
Entertainment Reporter

Miley Cyrus has taken over Disney and is now taking over the big screen with “Hannah Montana: The Movie.” After viewing this movie however, it’s easy to see she didn’t do much beyond TV with this glorified episode of the “Hannah Montana” series.

Miley Stewart (Cyrus) has the perfect pop-star lifestyle as her alter-ego Hannah Montana. However, her father (Billy Ray Cyrus) believes the success is going to her head, so he takes her back to their home state of Tennessee to rediscover her roots.

Admittedly, for a tween movie, the plot does sound pretty interesting going in, but about halfway in, the viewer can see that this film is nothing more than a glorified toy ad to sell more Hannah Montana merchandise.

Cyrus has always been talented, but everyone has to wonder if the guise of a Disney TV show is really needed anymore. It was a cute idea in the beginning in 2006 when she was still very young and making a name for herself.

The movie is just further proof that she is repeatedly beating, or in this case, singing a horse to death.

Director Peter Chelsom is

certainly no Stanley Kubrick, but even he who has worked with acclaimed actors like John Cusack and Richard Gere certainly could’ve done better.

Irony has never been truer from the opening scene when Cyrus crashes a golf cart backstage at her concert. The film is certainly a car crash.

By about the halfway point of the film, the viewer can see that, in true Hannah Montana “comedy” fashion, it falls flat on its face. The plot remains unresolved by the end because basically there is no plot.

Along with an hour and a half of no story and disposable Hannah Montana pop music, there is the “battle” of whether

Miley needs Hannah Montana.

Toward the end I had hope that she wouldn’t need her anymore and the franchise would be coming to a close.

Leave it to a Hannah Montana look-alike fan in the movie to beg Stewart not to give up the alter-ego to appease her fantasy of putting on a wig and pretending to be someone else. Most psychologists would see that behavior as being dangerous I would think.

The movie also has to rely on musical performances from Rascal Flatts and Taylor Swift in the movie to please the viewer. The acting of the young stars, particularly Lucas Till who plays Stewart’s love

interest, is enough to give the viewer an even bigger headache than they already have.

Till gives one of the driest performances from a young actor I will probably ever see on screen. If the kid wants to have the same acting chops as Keanu Reeves or Matthew McConaughey, I’d say keep at it, otherwise get to college while you still can.

“Hannah Montana: The Movie” was never expected to be a critical gem, but even as a fun-loving movie, it barely makes the grade. To paraphrase one of Cyrus’ songs - trying to find the seven things I hate about this film would be too easy.

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photo by christopher woodland | sports editor

SENIOR JOHN FARMER jumped 21 feet to win the long jump at the Maryville Invitational on Tuesday. He also won the 100 and 200 meter dashes, as the 'Hounds remained undefeated in meets this season.



photo by christopher woodland | sports editor

MARYVILLE SENIOR SETH Staashelm clears the bar at six feet two inches to take home third place in the high jump. He also ran the 800m in 2:05.69 to earn second place, just .61 seconds behind the event's winner.

MARYVILLE SWEEPS INVITATIONAL



photo by christopher woodland | sports editor

SOPHOMORE TAYLOR GADBOIS sprints ahead of a pair of Cameron runners in Tuesday's 200 meter dash. She won the event in 12.7 seconds, and also won the 200 meter dash in 25.89 seconds. She also anchored the Spoofhounds' 4x400 relay team that beat second place Penney by seven seconds.



photo by christopher woodland | sports editor

SOPHOMORE TAYLOR GADBOIS jumped 15 feet 7.5 inches in the long jump at Tuesday's Maryville Invitational. She placed fourth, but finished just three inches out of second.

HEALTH

South struggles with rising cases of HIV/AIDS; Obama will ‘refocus attention’

By Dahleen Glanton
Chicago Tribune

HENDERSON, N.C. (MCT) – Sheila Holt moved to this small town from New Jersey two years ago to take care of her ailing mother. But as a former heroin addict with HIV, she found that rebuilding her life in the South was harder than she had imagined.

She was shocked that the wealth of services, such as housing, transportation and medications, available to her as an HIV patient in Newark were lacking in Henderson. In the North, she said, people talked openly about the disease without fear of reprisal. In the South, she could not sit at the dinner table with her family or talk to her neighbors about the disease without the risk of being shunned.

With no job and few housing options in this rural area, she lived for months in the basement of her mother’s home, slipping

upstairs only when her stepfather was at work. She eventually qualified for Medicaid, which pays for the 10 medications she takes every day. And she receives a disability check that helps cover the rent for her sparsely furnished apartment tucked away on the backside of a public housing complex.

In the eyes of many, including her stepfather – a part-time minister – HIV and AIDS are a sin, she said.

“People are scared in the South. They don’t really understand that this is a disease,” said Holt, 44, who has begun to speak out about HIV prevention to students and other women. “They are either too religious to open up or they don’t want the stigma.”

It is an attitude that health care professionals have battled for almost a decade while HIV/AIDS skyrocketed in rural Southern communities, particularly among African-Americans. With

too few doctors, staggering poverty and a history of inadequate AIDS education programs, the South is now home to half of the 1.1 million people living with HIV/AIDS in the United States, according to the Southern AIDS Coalition, composed of health professionals.

The Obama administration said last week that it would refocus attention on HIV/AIDS in America, spending \$45 million over five years on television and radio ads, transit signs and other efforts to promote education and prevention.

A new study by the Trust for America’s Health found that during the economic downturn, Midwestern and Southern states are receiving the least federal funding from the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention to spend on public health, including AIDS. Illinois, for example, received \$16.66 per person in 2008, compared with \$52.78 per person in Alaska. And

with most states facing severe budget shortfalls, health professionals fear public health could take a hard hit.

In 2006, the federal government revamped the formula for distributing Ryan White Program funds, which significantly increased the allocation of HIV/AIDS money to the South. But health care workers said they still are catching up from years of underfunding and are struggling to provide the level of medical and support services to their primarily low-income patients as those in other regions receive. As a result, they said, many patients in the South lack adequate housing, transportation and access to some medications.

“Certainly the \$30 million shifted to the South helped, but we still have bigger problems,” said Kathie Hiers, former co-chairwoman of the Southern AIDS Coalition. “There needs to be a better level of parity between the states. The money

should follow the epidemic, but the way it stands now, the cities get way more per person than the rural areas.”

The CDC said urban areas, particularly in the Northeast, continue to experience the greatest impact from AIDS. The Northeast had the highest AIDS case rate per 100,000 in 2007 at 16.4, followed by the South at 15.1. The South, however, accounted for 46.4 percent of new AIDS cases in 2007 and has the greatest number of people estimated to be living with AIDS, according to a Kaiser Family Foundation analysis of CDC data.

“While the South has faced a higher burden of AIDS, the bulk of the available data do not suggest that the epidemic in the South is worsening,” said Dr. Richard Wolitski, acting director of the CDC’s Division of HIV/AIDS Prevention.

Dr. Michelle Ogle, director of the Northern Outreach Clinic

in Henderson, has struggled to serve patients with limited resources. The recession has exacerbated the problem, as people who are uninsured and barely making ends meet often place their medical needs on hold for daily survival.

Ogle has spent eight years working with HIV and AIDS patients in this town of about 16,000. Her small clinic, nestled out of sight in the rear of a medical complex, is the only such facility in a 50-mile radius and serves 50 to 100 patients a month from surrounding counties.

“We are not just fighting HIV, we are fighting a culture,” Ogle said. “What is disturbing is that we have women who don’t feel comfortable insisting that men use condoms because they are afraid he will leave and maybe he is paying some bills. They are victims of poor education, low self-esteem and they don’t feel empowered.”

PET CARE

‘Pay-as-you-go’ device can help track your stray pet

By Sue Stock
McClatchy Newspapers

RALEIGH, N.C. (MCT) – For owners of lost pets, the frantic search for Fido does not always end happily.

Now one company is betting that even in a recession, pet owners will pay \$250 for some peace of mind.

Smaller than a business card, Spotlight is a rectangular box that attaches to a dog’s collar and connects with satellites and cell phone towers to provide a GPS location for the dog at all times.

If your dog strays beyond the boundaries of a “safe spot” like

the yard or driveway, Spotlight sends a text message to inform you the dog is out of bounds and gives its location.

If you have a smart phone with Web access, it will also provide turn by turn directions to your dog.

The company behind Spotlight is Positioning Animals Worldwide, or PAW.

It partnered with the American Kennel Club’s Companion Animal Recovery division, which will provide telephone service for owners who have lost their dogs.

Spotlight is waterproof, less than 2.5 ounces and has a

bright LED light you can turn on remotely to help locate your dog at night.

Still, despite all of its high-tech features, the price tag may be a deal-breaker for some pet owners.

Customers pay \$250 plus a monthly service fee. Like a cell phone plan, customers will be able to choose from a pay-as-you-go plan that starts at \$4.99 a month to an unlimited plan. The price of that plan is still being set.

PAW CEO Chris Newton said he believes people will pay to keep their dogs safe.

“This started over a year ago because a bunch of people

started talking about what it’s like when you lose your dog,” Newton said. “We’re not unique in loving our dogs. Everyone loves their dogs.”

Industry statistics say he may be right. Despite the down economy, pet spending is predicted to rise to an estimated \$45.4 billion in 2009 this year, from \$43.2 billion in 2008, according to the American Pet Products Association.

Most of that increase is because pet owners have ramped up services like dog walking, dog sitting and preventative veterinary care, said Bob Vetere, association president. But, the market for GPS tracking devices

is only growing, he added.

“People have become increasingly attached to their pets, and in many cases, they are willing to do anything they have to do to make sure their pets are safe,” Vetere said.

Spotlight developers are counting on the device’s waterproof nature, long battery life and high-tech, “next generation” features to distinguish it from other GPS tracking devices on the market, said Tom Sharp, CEO for AKC Companion Animal Recovery.

Some pet owners now opt for microchips, which are embedded under a dog’s skin by a vet. Each chip contains a unique number

that can then be used to track down the dog’s owner if the dog is found. But there is no real-time data from the microchip about the whereabouts of the dog.

“One of the most popular questions we get is, ‘Is the microchip a GPS?’” Sharp said. “We have a natural customer base for this product.”

When PAW begins selling Spotlight next month, it will be available on www.pawgps.com and www.akccar.org.

PAW is working to strike a deal to stock Spotlight in local stores and will also market the product directly to veterinarians.



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Royals have chance at post-season behind pitching staff

Sure, I know it's only a week into the season, but the Royals are .500 and I don't want this to be the last time I say that this season. With a fairly weakened division, the boys in blue should have a pretty good shot at winning the AL Central and getting into the playoffs. So, I figure now is as good a time as ever to go through the good and the bad of the season so far.

The Good.
1. The pitching staff. Gil Meche, Zach Greinke and Kyle Davies have all looked good in their starts. The most runs the staff has given up in a game so far is four and they have a combined ERA of 3.23. Meche has 12 strike-

outs in 14 innings while Davies has a 0.00 ERA in seven innings of work and struck out a career high eight batters. The bullpen has taken some shots, but Joakim Soria is holding his own, picking up a save in all three of our wins. He'll be a perennial all-star for years to come if we hold on to him.

2. Dayton Moore. He seems to be making all of the right moves so far. He hasn't shipped out any all-stars for career minor leaguers ala Allard Baird,



Jason Lawrence
Asst. Sports Editor

so he's a keeper. If he keeps this up, the Royals could actually be a contender in the next couple of years.

3. No one has fallen from the standing room only seats into the fountains trying to get a home run ball. It has however only been one series so it's bound to happen. Seven dollars to get soaking wet and add a souvenir, sounds like a good deal to me.

Unfortunately, not everything has been going well for the hometown team

to this point.

The Bad.

1. The offense. They have a team batting average of .200 and if that's not bad enough, we have more strikeouts than hits, 55 versus 40. We've only scored 14 runs and six of them came in the final game of the series against the Yankees. The pitching will keep us in games, but it's a long season, so the offense has to get going or this season will be over by June.

2. Ticket prices were doubled. I can't say I want to pay \$14 to sit in a seat where I have to bring binoculars to see. I'm going to move down regardless, but it's the principle. It's no longer cheaper

to go to a baseball game than a movie, unless you stand for the whole game and that's not something I plan on being very fond of.

3. Having four first basemen on the 40-man roster. So far it appears they're using the wrong two. Billy Butler is hitting an astonishing .059 with seven strikeouts in six games and he doesn't even play the field. Mike Jacobs is another story. He's a liability in the field and he hasn't shown the pop in his bat that made us pull the trigger and trade for him, hitting only .176 with no homers and only one RBI. Ryan Shealy and Kila Ka'aihue should get looks in platoon duty if they keep this up.

SPORTS STAFF PICKS

Woody's picks
Prediction record (20-24)
American League Champ
Kansas City Royals

Ya ya ya ya, I know. Hey I don't want to hear it. Just let me live in my dilusional world for a month before it comes crashing down like usual. If the Rays could do it last year, why not the Royals this year?

National League Champ
St. Louis Cardinals

The Cards should play back to their normal selves this year. Chris Carpenter looked good in 10 innings of work so far, before injuring himself yet again. All the Cards have to do though is remain within chasing distance of the Cubs, and once Carpenter gets healthy again, and the Cubs self destruct again, STL will have home field advantage in the I-70 World Series.

World Series Champion
St. Louis Cardinals

Seeing the Royals win would warm my heart, but the fact of the matter is they just aren't good enough, and while I'm not confident in either of my picks, the Cards have a better shot.

Most Valuable Player
Albert Pujols

He's the best hitter in the game.

Brian "The Bulldog's" picks
Prediction record (18-26)
American League Champ
Boston Red Sox

Boston is off to a rough start and is dead last in their division, sitting on 2-6 record. Don't expect it to last long. Watch for Pedroia to build on his MLB season.

National League Champ
New York Mets

The Mets left their late season collapses behind them with Shea Stadium. The Mets have a great mix of talented young guys and veterans. The young pitchers (Maine, Pelfrey and Perez) will get into form as the season continues and as long the Mets can start putting up runs for Santana they'll be fine. Don't count on too many late game collapses with Putz and K-Rod in the pen.

World Series Champion
New York Mets

They haven't won a ring since '86 and after handing the division over to Philly the last two years, I'd say we've paid our dues.

Most Valuable Player
David Wright

The young third baseman has been a leader for the Mets since he got there. Don't expect it to be any different in the World Series.

Jason's picks
Prediction record (21-23)
American League Champ
Tampa Bay Rays

They're actually experienced this year and they are the defending AL champs, so that gives them an edge early on. They have two of the best young players in the game in Evan Longoria and B.J. Upton and Carl Crawford is finally shining with a supporting cast.

National League Champ
Chicago Cubs

They have the pitching and the offense to do it, but will the curse let them? I think it's their year. A potential Cy Young winner in Carlos Zambrano and potential NL MVP in Alfonso Soriano will lead them there.

World Series Champion
Chicago Cubs

They will finally break the curse. 101 years later the Cubbies will once again be World Champs after taking down the up-start Rays.

Most Valuable Player
Evan Longoria

With a full season in the majors ahead of him, his potential is unlimited and it will show this year. Last year he hit 27 home runs and had 85 RBIs in 122 games.

Dustin's picks
Prediction record (28-16)
American League Champ
Seattle Mariners

With Ken Griffey Jr. returning to the rainy promise land of Seattle, Wash. the Mariners will win the West and roll through the play-offs. Just add A-Rod to bring back the memories of my childhood and the posters in my bed room.

National League Champ
Florida Marlins

I love cheering for a ball club like this. They don't go out and spend millions of dollars to pick up the best players in the league. The Marlins are streaky from year to year and this will be their year again.

World Series Champion
Florida Marlins

It's the Marlins turn to win the World Series again. They won it in 1997 and in 2003 so the Fish took their six year break and it's time again to lift the commissioner's trophy.

Most Valuable Player
Alfonso Soriano

If he can stay healthy the NL MVP is all his. Soriano is already leading the lead in homeruns and will hopefully steal 40 bases too.

MIAA STANDINGS

BASEBALL	MIAA		OVERALL	
	W	L	W	L
Emporia State (3)	23	3	35	6
UNO (16)	22	6	32	11
Missouri Southern	18	8	26	14
Central Missouri	16	8	25	10
Fort Hays	16	14	24	20
Missouri Western	11	15	22	20
Washburn	9	13	16	19
NORTHWEST	8	16	16	22
Pittsburg State	7	17	10	28
Southwest Baptist	5	17	8	28
Truman	5	21	8	32

SOFTBALL	MIAA		OVERALL	
	W	L	W	L
Central Missouri	10	0	26	8
Missouri Western (21)	8	2	35	6
UNO (22)	6	2	32	9
Emporia State	7	3	28	11
Pittsburg State	6	4	26	17
Washburn	6	6	19	24
Missouri Southern	4	6	14	29
Fort Hays	4	8	26	25
NORTHWEST	3	9	12	31
Truman	2	8	10	23
Southwest Baptist	2	10	19	29

MENS' TENNIS	MIAA		OVERALL	
	W	L	W	L
Washburn (33)	4	0	8	4
NORTHWEST	4	1	13	4
Southwest Baptist	3	2	9	6
Truman	2	3	6	4
Emporia State	0	3	6	6
UNO	0	4	5	8

WOMENS' TENNIS	MIAA		OVERALL	
	W	L	W	L
Washburn	7	0	11	2
Truman	6	2	14	3
NORTHWEST	6	2	11	4
UNO	5	2	8	9
Southwest Baptist	3	4	6	7
Emporia State	2	3	7	5
Fort Hays	1	5	5	9
Missouri Southern	1	6	2	10
Missouri Western	0	7	3	8

Stat of the Week:

0 - Zero is the number of runs allowed by Maryville pitcher Adam Mattson. Mattson threw a complete game shut out and allowed only four hits against Cameron High School. Mattson is 2-1 for the season with a 3.32 ERA and 20 strikeouts.



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Celebrating a Quarter Century



The Northwest Missourian is celebrating Dr. Dean L. and Aleta Hubbard's 25 years of service with a commemorative President Guide.

Find it inside the April 23
The Northwest MISSOURIAN

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BASEBALL

Weather forces postponement of two games, tournament awaits

By: Dustin Sander
Community Sports Editor

Rainy weather forced the Spoofhound baseball team inside for the last week.
Both of Maryville's Monday and Tuesday night games were cancelled due to unplayable field conditions. The 'Hounds were scheduled to play East Buchanan at home Monday and play in Chillicothe Tuesday night.
The last chance the 'Hounds had to play was last Wednesday

at home against Cameron. They won 1-0 to improve their record to 2-4.
Senior Adam Mattson threw a complete game shut out and only gave up four hits in Maryville's first conference game of the year.
"It was our first conference game," coach Thom Alvarez said. "It's all about the conference, that's what we play for every year. All the other games are important and we want to win them all, but conference is the

ultimate goal for any team playing in high school sports ... by starting out 1-0 that keeps us on track for one of our goals."
Mattson also batted in the team's only run of the game during the third inning with a triple. The 'Hounds only earned two hits but ended up on top behind Mattson's pitching performance.
Maryville is preparing for the Pony Express Tournament in St. Joseph, Missouri. The tournament begins Monday and will

run through the weekend.
"It's almost like a conference tournament," Alvarez said. "We have several of our conference schools in there plus St. Joe Central. The competition is always really good with Benton, Central and Chillicothe are all traditionally really good baseball programs."
In preparation for the tournament the 'Hounds have only been able to practice inside for the last week.
"It's been tough because it's

been so wet but we've been focusing on keeping our hitting going well," Alvarez said. "We've done a lot of batting practice and tried to fit in the fielding were we can. There's only so much you can do inside a gym our size."
Maryville's largest struggle of the season has been it's fielding. The 'Hounds have already tallied 23 errors on the season after only six games. Still being inside in the third week of the season really hurts the team's defensive development, Alvarez said.

"I think it hinders everybody a great deal," Alvarez said. "Fielding a ground ball on dirt is a whole lot different than fielding it on the gym floor. So I don't think the defensive work is there and that might have to do with some of our fielding errors. All the schools in northwest Missouri have to deal with the rainy weather."
The 'Hounds begin the Pony Express Tournament at 4:30 p.m. Monday at Phil Welch Stadium in St. Joseph against Benton.

GIRLS': Run away with MHS Invitational

Continued from A14

winter months has played a vital role in her personal success this year.
Her hard work has paid off this year as she blew away the competition in the 100 and 300-meter hurdles and the long jump.
Stiens beat the second place finishers by 3.21 seconds in the 300-hurdles, 1.62 in the 100-hurdles and jumped more than a foot longer than the second best long-jumper.
She has only lost one event this whole season, the long jump at the Chillicothe meet a couple weeks ago.
Two other 'Hounds also placed towards the top of the 100 and 300-hurdles to gain those crucial points Hageman talked about playing a vital role in his teams success.
Freshman Holly Wilmarth placed second to Steins in both events, and junior Melanie Spinnato finished third in the 100-hurdles and fourth in the 300.
Gadbois anchored the

girls' 4x400 meter relay team, beating their closest competition, Penney, by seven seconds.
"They did a great job," Hageman said. "They're brought up 4:13 this year, so they've set a goal, and they didn't quite get that, but our last two runners were up by 40 or 50 meters so it was hard for them to PR (personal record) tonight."
She also won the 100 and 200-meter dashes with times of 12.7 and 25.89 respectively. Her 25.89 in the 200 meters beat second-placed Samantha Fender from Chillicothe by 1.03 seconds.
She has not lost in the 100 or 200 yet this season.
Not to be out-done, Walker rocketed a discus 128 feet, 11 inches to break the school record.
"She had a great throw, I think she's going to break 130 this year," Hageman said.
She also placed second by throwing a 36 foot, 10 inch shot put, just two inches shy of Savannah's Beth Lewis.
The 'Hounds will also be at home next Tuesday.

GIRLS' SOCCER



BOTH TEAMS STRUGGLED to find the back of the net last Friday when Lafayette girls' soccer team visited Maryville. The Spoofhounds finally managed to squeak a ball by the Lafayette goalie in the second overtime for a 1-0 victory. The Spoofhounds also defeated Benton on Tuesday afternoon to improve to 2-0 against Midland Empire Conference opponents, and 2-2 overall.

photo by Jason Lawrence
asst. sports editor

ATHLETES OF THE WEEK



Emily Churchman



Jordan Stiens



Harvel allowed only one run in a 5-1 victory over UNO Saturday afternoon. UNO leads the MIAA in offense and Harvel kept them to only two hits. He also allowed only six base runners and came one out away from a complete game. Harvel leads the Bearcats in almost every pitching stat. Harvel has a 3.44 ERA and three wins.

Bret Harvel

Churchman won the high jump and the long jump at the Jim Duncan Invitational at Drake University on her way to setting a career best 4,719 points in the heptathlon. She fell just 81 points shy of getting an automatic qualifying bid for the NCAA Outdoor Track Championships in San Angelo, Texas in late May.

Farmer helped the Maryville track team to win its own Spoofhounds Invitational. Farmer placed first in four events. Farmer took first in three individual events; 100 yd dash, 200 dash and the long jump. Farmer also was a part of the first place 4 x 100 relay team. Farmer was accountable for 40 of Maryville's total 158 points.

John Farmer

Stiens won three events as the Maryville girl's track team won their 13th straight meet. Stiens came away on top of the 100 meter hurdles, 300 meter hurdles and long jump. She brought in a time of 14.78 in the 100 meter hurdles and 45.73 in the 300 meter hurdles. She also jumped 16 feet 11.5 inches in the long jump.

NORTHWEST

MARYVILLE HIGH

TRACK AND FIELD

'Cats turn in best performance of year, KU relays next

By Jason Lawrence
Asst. Sports Editor

The first good weather of the year proved to be beneficial as four more Bearcats provisionally qualified or increased their provisional mark for the NCAA Outdoor Track and Field Championships in San Angelo, Texas in late May.

"The weather was great," head coach Scott Lorek said. "I think that was part of the reason we ran so well. It was probably one of the best weekends I've ever had coaching wise. All the way around it was awesome. It was totally fun to be there and watch the team."

At the Nebraska Invitational on Saturday, Bridget Kleine provisionally qualified in the 400-meter dash with a time of 56.25 seconds. Audrey Bailey won the 400-meter hurdles in one minute, 9.8-tenths of a second to lower her provisional mark. Sheldon Cook also qualified in Lincoln; he finished sixth in

the 200-meter dash in 21.32 seconds.

"We've had a couple of good surprises here and there," Lorek said. "I know we've got some more that can do that too. Things are just falling together because people have the right attitude and are just coming out and competing. Right now we have a lot of people really believing they can do well."

Emily Churchman came within 81 points of automatically qualifying for the NCAA Championships in the heptathlon. She scored 4,719 points as the top collegiate athlete at the Division II Challenge hosted by Emporia State University on Thursday and Friday. She won the long jump (18 feet, 3 inches) and the high jump (five foot, five and three-quarter inches) to top her career best by more than 100 points.

"She's doing a lot of things right," Lorek said. "She had a couple of long jumps considerably further than 18-3 that were scratches. One of them, I would go to my grave, was not a

scratch and it was well over 19 feet. I know Emily is capable of more there too."

The Jim Duncan Invitational hosted by Drake University allowed infrequently ran event to get some repetitions on Saturday. Trevor Johannsen finished third in his first 10,000 meter run of the outdoor season in a time of 32 minutes, 28.68 seconds. Madison Marshman led the Northwest women, finishing eighth in 40 minutes, 41.40 seconds.

"The 10,000 is something you can't do too often," Lorek said. "You have to hope you get cooperation with a good field and good weather. That stuff worked out. We've been working with Trevor on the 10,000 and trying to get him feeling better. We've changed a couple of things, so in a couple of weeks he should be feeling really good. I'm totally happy with how the women ran their races; they've got to where they are competitive in the 10,000."

This weekend the team splits up again. The majority of the team will travel to Lawrence, Kan. to compete in the Kansas Relays Thursday through Sunday while the rest of the team heads to Warrensburg, Mo. to participate in the Central Missouri Mule Relays.

"There are some people going to Central that things need to just start clicking," Lorek said. "Tyler Shaw is one of those who'll be going to Central instead of Kansas. He hasn't put a good race together yet, but he's close and I think that'll come."

The KU Relays is one of the biggest meets of the year for the track team. They can accommodate many athletes in every event.

"Thursday night they are doing a distance festival," Lorek said. "It's all 800-meters and on up. It's (KU Relays) a lot of fun, I think it's a highlight. The best thing is that all of the fields are really competitive, so if you're ready to go it's a great place to run."

BASEBALL SEASON STATS		
Northwest		Opponents
8.0	HITS/Game	9.18
4.82	RUNS/Game	6.02
.261	BATTING AVE.	.287
17	HOME RUNS	31
73	ERRORS	61
4.18	RBIs/Game	5.47
.337	ON BASE %	.367
5.7	Pitchers' Ks/9	7.44
5.4	Pitchers' ERA	3.76

SEASON LEADERS	
Batting Average	ERA
1.) .333 Trevor Conner	1.) 3.38 Trevor Theisman
2.) .314 Chris Benham	2.) 3.44 Brett Harvel
3.) .299 Tim Beck	3.) 3.6 Jacob Kemper
Home Runs	Strikeouts
1.) 4 Brandon Kirsch and Brandon Kirsch	1.) 37 Bret Harvel
3.) 3 Two tied	2.) 23 Christian Dekker
	3.) 21 Bill Disselhoff
RBIs	Stolen Bases
1.) 18 Matt Stice	1.) 19 Matt Stice
2.) 16 Jared Erspamer	2.) 9 Chris Benham

SOFTBALL SEASON STATS		
Northwest		Opponents
7.09	HITS/Game	8.63
3.7	RUNS/GAME	5.62
.266	BATTING AVE.	.315
29	HOME RUNS	53
66	ERRORS	42
3.34	RBIs/Game	5.09
.331	ON BASE %	.374
4.39	Pitchers' Ks/9	5.86
4.66	Pitchers' ERA	2.88

SEASON LEADERS	
Batting Average	ERA
1.) .365 Tiffany Carter	1.) 4.12 Cola Krueger
2.) .308 Casey Carper	2.) 4.74 Nicole Ackelson
3.) .288 Jennifer Bohle	3.) 5.56 Kelsey Resa
Home Runs	Strikeouts
1.) 10 Tiffany Carter	1.) 81 Cola Krueger
2.) 4 Jennifer Bohle and Sarag Saladino	2.) 34 Kelsey Resa
	3.) 21 Nicole Ackelson

WOMEN'S TENNIS

SOPHOMORE LISA PENDRAK prepares to return a serve. The Bearcats fell to Truman 5-4 on Tuesday. The loss leaves the 'Cats in a tie with Truman for first in the MIAA.



photo by christopher woodland | sports editor

ERSPAMER: Dual athlete

Continued from A14

"I certainly don't question his ability or his competitive nature, everyone knows he brings a certain level of intensity to the game that is certainly wanted any time you are playing a sport," Tjeerdsma said. "Not only is he helping them between the lines, but also leading by example on the field, which is something I appreciated about him when he was playing for us on Saturdays."

When not putting so much time into training, Erspamer likes to escape by relaxing and playing video games and taking care of his two dogs. Erspamer also got engaged to his new fiancé.

"It's been real busy to say the least, trying to juggle baseball, school, and working on this wedding," "It's stressful but a lot of fun."

After his stint on the diamond is over, Erspamer will head back to the gridiron, but this time as a graduate assistant. If the opportunity presented itself, returning to football field as a player is something he

would love to do. His all-time dream job would be to play on Sundays and with a slight chuckle said that he would be there if he could run a decent 40 time.

Although this is his first year back he is still respected by his teammates.

"I think I have gained a lot of respect by just coming in and working my butt off day in and day out," "Although we are not playing to our abilities right now, we are getting hot and that is something you want to be doing at this point."

Although the team has been struggling this year, the 'Cats have managed to win five of their last seven games and hope to continue the win streak this week as they head to Truman State for a double-header followed by a three-game stand against Missouri Southern.

Although his career is winding down Jared is grateful for the opportunity he was given by his coaching staffs.

"Getting the opportunity to come out and represent Northwest again is really an honor, not to mention a whole lot of fun."

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PROFILE

Former All-American football star finds a new home in the dugout as first baseman

By A.J. Martin
Missourian Reporter

When you think of Jared Erspamer a few things come to mind. A tenacious linebacker that anchored the Bearcat defense racking up 276 tackles, 5 sacks and 3 interceptions in 54 games. Erspamer was also the 2007 MIAA Defensive MVP and a veteran of three national championship games.

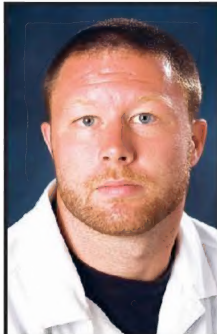
But what many do not know is that Erspamer is also a very gifted athlete on the baseball diamond. Erspamer rejoined the Northwest

baseball team after almost a four year absence from the sport. Many would expect that he would have a hard time getting back into the sport because of such a long absence.

However, Erspamer has worked hard in the off-season and has worked his way into the starting lineup as the team's first baseman. Erspamer ranks second on the team in slugging percentage (.413), doubles (8), and walks (12). He is fourth on the team in on base percentage (.358), runs scored (18), and RBIs (16). Erspamer is also

batting .272 which is good enough for fifth on the team this year.

Going by the stats, it is a true testament to Erspamer's athleticism that he is able to put out such high levels of productivity, considering he hasn't played competitively in four years. Erspamer likes to give credit to himself as well as the coaching staff in preparing him for the season.



Jared Erspamer

"I'm a really intense competitor and when I am doing something whether it be football or baseball I'm going to give my all in preparing myself to play," Erspamer said. "My coaches spent a lot of time with me in the batting cages in the winter, getting my swing back and timing were big issues that I think I've done fairly well on."

Erspamer's goals coming into the season were what some might call lofty at best. But with his remarkable athletic ability he is right on the cusp of reaching his goals.

"I really wanted to hit over .300 this season and just be a good presence in the locker room and bring the winning mentality to this team."

Comparing the two sports for him is pretty much no contest in his eyes. Although he loves the game of baseball, he holds football and wrestling closer to his heart.

"Being the person I am I feel a lot more comfortable playing football because of my intense demeanor," Erspamer said.

"Playing baseball is a much more relaxed sport, which is kind of a nice change of pace in a sense that I am able to go out and just have fun while still keeping that competitive nature."

Erspamer's former coach Mel Tjeerdsma is not at all surprised with Erspamer's success on the diamond.

See **ERSPAMER** on **A13**

SOFTBALL

'Cats lose pitcher for season, rely on young talent

By Brian Bosiljevac
University Sports Editor

The Northwest softball team suffers from injuries and inconsistency as the season draws to an end.

The season began with a roster full of 17 names, but as the final two weeks of league play get under way a roster has been cut down to 11 players.

One of the Bearcats three pitchers could be lost for the rest of the season after a line drive hit Kelsey Resa in the forehead during the Rockhurst game. Senior Casey Carper may miss the rest of the season with back injuries. Carper has a .308 batting average, second highest on the team.

"We're just trying to make it through games right now," head coach Ryan Anderson said. "The whole season has been, we get going and then have something kill momentum."

With the loss of Resa the 'Cats could face some troubles. Pitching has played a key role in whether the 'Cats come out on top or not. Northwest plays close to .500 ball when its pitchers can keep the opponent to five runs or less. But the 'Cats have given up five or more runs in 20 games and they have only won two of those games.

"It's tough (only having two pitchers for the rest of the season), we miss Kelsey a lot," freshman pitcher Nicole Ackelson said. "We just have to deal with what we got, we've got to tough it out."

Due to a cancelled game with Nebraska-Kearney this week the 'Cats have had a whole week off before their next game. It probably couldn't have come at a better time for the Northwest softball team whose players are tying ice packs to their shoulders, hips and backs. The team even cut back on throwing in practice just to reduce the possibility of further injuring anyone else. The 'Cats biggest focus this week is getting healthy, Anderson said.

The only bright spot to all of these injuries is the amount of playing time the young players are receiving. In the 'Cats' last series with Fort Hays five of the 10 starters were either freshmen or sophomores.

"Obviously we haven't had college experience," freshman Jennifer Bohle said. "So it's nice to get out there and know exactly what to look for, rather than getting thrown out there next year and not knowing what to expect."

Even with all the injuries and the frustrating 12-31 record, hope is not lost for the 'Cats. With the MIAA tournament only weeks away, Northwest is sitting in ninth place, only one game back from Fort Hays. The top eight teams will be eligible for the MIAA Tournament on March 30.

"We're sitting in good position," Anderson said. "Obviously we control a lot of our own destiny right now. I'm not saying we are out of it at all because we have shown great glimpses we can play well... Things have to fall just right for us now."

MHS GIRLS' TRACK

2 YEARS...



photo by christopher woodland | sports editor

JUNIOR JORDAN STIENS sprints past her competition in the 100 meter hurdles at Tuesday's Maryville invitational. She won the event in 14.78 seconds. She also won long jump and 300m hurdles.

Spoofhound girls' track team continue toward milestone event

By Christopher Woodland
Sports Editor

As sunset cast shadows across the Maryville High School track on Tuesday evening, sophomore Taylor Gadbois reached the finish line before anyone else yet again, keeping a nearly two-year-long streak alive.

For a moment, it seemed the 'Hounds winning streak might end as they trailed Platte County around halfway through the meet, but behind a combined seven first-place finishes

by Gadbois, Jordan Stiens and Megan Walker helped the Spoofhounds run away with the meet by accumulating 158 points to second-place Platte County's 115.5.

"The Platte County girls accumulated a lot of points (in the middle of the meet), but once some more of the field events came in, and we got the point of the hurdles and the 200, that really helped us score a lot of points in a hurry and we kind of ran away with it," Hageman said.

The Spoofhound girls' track team

now approaches its two-year anniversary since its last meet loss and have compiled 13 consecutive victories over that time, including two conference championships.

Maryville has won 19 of its last 23 meets dating back to May 2007.

While the 'Hounds have a trio of stars that have helped them accomplish that streak, head coach Grant Hageman credits the team's role players for the streak.

"With some of the girls getting second and third place finishes, those

points really add up, and when it's all said and done we have a lot of points," Hageman said.

Stiens credits the team's hard work as the primary reason for the team's success.

"We just work hard in practice, and just try to PR (personal record) every meet at everything we do," Stiens said. She added that staying in shape by running and playing winter volleyball during the

See **GIRLS'** on **A12**

MHS BOYS' TRACK

Boys remain undefeated at Maryville Invitational, continue to surpass preseason expectations

By Christopher Woodland
Sports Editor

The boys' track team slipped by MEC rival Chillicothe 157-147 at the Maryville Invitational Tuesday night to remain undefeated in meets this season.

Leading Chillicothe 149-141 heading into the 4x400 meter relay, it seemed Maryville's record might slip.

After John Schreck and Evan Johnson put the Spoofhounds in position for a possible win, Johnson and Gavin Talmadge struggled with the baton exchange heading into the third leg, and lost precious seconds.

Seth Staashelm attempted to

make up for the lost time on the final leg of the relay, but couldn't catch Penney's runner.

"That team's (Penney) already beaten us once this year, they beat us in Chillicothe by about a second, so it should have been a closer race than it was," head coach Chris Holt said. "I don't know if we would have got them or not, but it should have been closer than three seconds."

Despite the handoff, Talmadge and anchor Seth Staashelm salvaged what they could, and finished second in the event behind Penney, but ahead of the other five teams, including Chillicothe, who was the leading contender for the lead, and

continued the Spoofhounds' unbeaten season.

"No one expected anything out of us at the beginning of the year, and then we came out in our first meet and everyone was kind of surprised," Staashelm said. "We've been running on (adrenaline)."

Staashelm nearly came away with a win in the 800-meter run. Chillicothe's Casey Pryor edged him 2:05.08 to 2:05.69. He also challenged in the high jump, finishing third. Cameron's Mitch Hatten and Savannah's Jordan Carlisle tied for first with jumps of six feet four inches, with Staashelm two inches back at six feet, two inches.

John Farmer rose to the challenge again, and collected 30 team points by finishing first in three individual events. He also helped the 'Hounds win the 4x100 meter relay.

Farmer won the 100-meter dash with an 11.19, the 200 meters in 22.55 and the long-jump by jumping 21 feet.

In addition to Farmer, Clay Mather turned in an exceptional performance in the sprints. He finished third in both the 100 and 200-meter dashes with 11.47 in the 100 and 23.23 in the 200.

"The sprinters are carrying us right now with the sprint relays, and of course having Mather really stepping up for us this year

in addition to John in the 100 and 200," Holt said.

Zeke Wynans added 10 more points to the team total when he won the triple jump with 42 feet, 2.5 inches.

After placing second in the discus, Adam Thompson teamed with fellow throwers Brent Martin and Dan Johnson in the Throwers Relay. Although the event doesn't count towards team points, the 'Hounds dominated the event.

"Brent Martin ran real well for us, and of course AT (Adam Thompson) finished it," Holt said. "They were all talking smack afterwards, and they have a lot of fun with that event, so it's good."